

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council

Meeting Number 119 (02-12)

February 6, 2012

The Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Joppatowne High School beginning at 7:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meeting Number 119 was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by the pledge of allegiance, greetings to the community members and introduction of council members. Chairperson Mullis acknowledged special guest Janet Gleisner of the Department of Planning and Zoning and Lt. Hugh John Dougherty of the Harford County Sheriff's Department. Council members present were Paula Mullis, Doris Carey, Gloria Moon, Betty Byrne, Yvonne Baldwin, Ron Sollod, Vincent Rabenau, Jo Ann Macdonald, Bob Frisch and James B. Lyons, III. Chairperson Mullis stated that she has been personally assured that a contingency from the County will attend the next meeting and address the concerns of the community members. She asked everyone to come to the March meeting, bring others and bring questions and issues to be discussed. It was moved by Gloria Moon and seconded by Ron Sollod that the January minutes be approved.

The Sheriff's Office / Community Policing Report

Lt. Hugh John Dougherty shared statistics for the last 28 days in Sector 10. There have been a number of robberies, burglaries, motor vehicle thefts. He said that Sector 10 has not been hit as hard as other areas. He encouraged community members to keep their houses locked and to keep a watch for suspicious activities in their neighborhoods. If anything out of the ordinary is noticed be sure to call the Sheriff's Office. He updated the community on the Southern Precinct building. An open house is projected for early March. The large community center, where community meetings may be held, should be available in April. Lt. Dougherty answered questions from community members. Paula Mullis thanked him for his participation.

Presentation on the Master Plan by Janet Gleisner of the Department of Planning and Zoning

Janet Gleisner began by saying that she would present the Master Plan to the County Council on Tuesday evening. She said that the Joppa/Joppatowne map focused on the Route 40 Corridor and the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor. The plan she was sharing was done basically with information received online. Several community members expressed that the land use map Gleisner was showing was incorrect. Gloria Moon commented about the differences between the proposed Master Plan and the current plan. Gleisner responded that other than removing rural residential areas, nothing else was different. Gloria Moon emphasized that the existing land use map is very misleading and does not properly reflect land uses in Joppa. Janet Gleisner stated that the land use map and zoning classifications are different because of the requirement to use national standards to maintain consistency in analyzing land uses among jurisdictions.

She added that the land use map has nothing to do with zoning, but it indicates what exists at the present time. The Master Plan shows how the County wants to grow in the future. Gloria Moon thanked Ms. Gleisner and said she did a nice job even though she missed a few things.

Board of Education Update – Bob Frisch

Bob Frisch said that the big thing at this time was the budget. The School Board approved a request of \$16 million more than last year. He said he voted against the budget. The budget is being sent to the County Executive. Frisch said the budget is on line and is 500 pages long. He also suggested that if community members have suggestions or comments, send them to the Board and they will review them.

County Council and Community Update from Councilman Dion Guthrie

Councilman Guthrie said the Governor is trying to push \$8.9 million back to the county for retirement benefits. He has no idea where the money will come from. The flow of cash coming into Harford County is going down. He also said with the Master Plan he plans to file an amendment that he will submit at the County Council the following night. The idea, which was suggested by local council member Gloria Moon, is to remove the map because of not being happy with what is happening and go back to ground zero. Guthrie said the Waste Transfer Station is headed to Pleckers unless it can be headed off. He said he knows the Army is not going to build another Waste to Energy Plant. The Waste to Energy facility at APG has to close by 2016, and that would be a great location to put the waste transfer station, according to Guthrie. He explained the trash can be loaded onto trains and taken to other facilities, maybe out-of-state. Councilman Guthrie said that the bill on the Livability Code will come up next week. The bill insures that landlords renting their facilities must keep property up to a certain standard in the County.

Chairperson Mullis reminded community participants to come to the local council meeting next month and bring others who are concerned with where the waste transfer station is headed. She has invited elected officials who have agreed to come and answer questions from the community.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Minutes by Doris Carey